



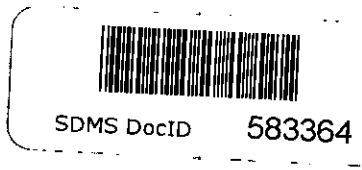
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION I

J.F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203-2211

November 6, 1992

Councilwoman Foster  
Warwick City Council  
Warwick, RI



Dear Councilwoman Foster:

Thank you for your letter concerning the dump located on airport property in Warwick, Rhode Island. Our records identify this site as Truk-Away of Rhode Island Inc. located on Industrial Drive.

Truk-Away of Rhode Island Inc. (Truk-Away) (EPA ID number RID054034293) was first brought to the attention of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 1981 by a citizen alleging the disposal of hazardous wastes. Under the authority of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), commonly known as "Superfund", the Truk-Away site was entered into the CERCLA Information System (CERCLIS) database as a potential hazardous waste disposal area on June 1, 1981. CERCLIS is a management information tool that EPA utilizes to keep track of the thousands of incidents that are referred to the agency for investigation. Currently there are approximately 2,500 sites in New England listed in CERCLIS. Once entered into CERCLIS a site goes through a series of investigations to determine whether the site qualifies for listing on EPA's National Priorities List (NPL).

The first and second steps in the Superfund program's Site Assessment process, the Preliminary Assessment (PA) and Site Inspection (SI), were completed at the Truk-Away site by Ecology and Environment, Inc. under contract to EPA. The final PA and SI reports for the site were submitted to EPA and entered into CERCLIS on April 1, 1982 and August 1, 1982 respectively, with recommendations for continued investigation. The next step is to score the site using the Hazard Ranking System (HRS) model which was revised in 1990<sup>1</sup>. An HRS score will be generated for this site as part of a Site Inspection Prioritization (SIP) which has recently been assigned. EPA will utilize the SIP to update the information provided in the 1982 SI and to complete a preliminary HRS score according to requirements outlined in the revised HRS model. The SIP for the Truk-Away site should be completed within the next year.

<sup>1</sup>The HRS allows EPA to assess sites according to the potential threat they pose to human health and the environment and is EPA's primary means of placing sites on the NPL. Sites which score 28.5 or greater are eligible for listing on the NPL.



The recommendation to install monitoring wells at the Truk-Away site was made by a contractor in the SI report and did not represent an EPA decision. If the collection of additional groundwater information is necessary to score the site, this type of work would be conducted in the future.

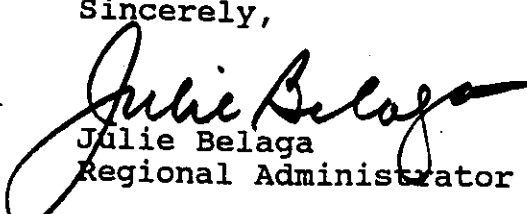
The Truk-Away site is included in a group of over 750 locations in New England where an SI has been completed and for which EPA is evaluating for possible listing on the NPL. EPA, in coordination with the State of Rhode Island, is processing these sites through the Superfund pipeline on a "worst sites first" basis and will continue to evaluate these sites as quickly as possible, recognizing the constraints of our available resources, and our responsibility for conducting sound site assessments.

Any new information that the City of Warwick may have concerning this site including site history, environmental assessments, and sampling data would be very helpful to EPA. Information should be sent to:

Sharon Hayes  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
J.F.K. Federal Building (HSS-CAN 7)  
Boston, MA 02203

I appreciate your bringing this matter to my attention. If you need any further assistance, please contact me, or have your staff contact Rudy Brown of the Office of Government Relations at (617) 565-3412.

Sincerely,

  
Julie Belaga  
Regional Administrator

cc: Timothy O'Connor, RI DEM